

Tom Horne
Superintendent

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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SUPERINTENDENT HORNE CALLS FOR AUDIT AND POSSIBLE WITHHOLDING OF ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS UNTIL TUSD COMPLIES WITH STATE LAW REGARDING TEACHER RAISES

PHOENIX (Thursday, November 2, 2006) – Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Horne today sent a letter to the state Auditor General requesting an audit to investigate TUSD’s use of funds intended for new raises for teachers and other employees. (HB2874.) It is alleged that TUSD used this money to pay pre-existing contracts, giving TUSD the ability to divert the new funds away from teacher raises. Horne asks for a determination of whether this constituted a violation of law, and therefore a violation of U.S.F.R. (the Uniform System of Financial Reporting, administered by the Auditor General).

Horne stated: “If the alleged facts are confirmed, I have requested a finding that the application of funds intended for new raises to pre-existing obligations constituted a violation of law, and therefore a violation of U.S.F.R. I have requested further action pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-272, under which the Auditor General gives the school district 90 days to correct the violation, after which application is to be made to the State Board of Education to possibly withhold administrative funds until the district comes into compliance.” The Arizona Department of Education has received dozens of complaints from TUSD teachers, as well as a formal complaint from the TUSD employees’ bargaining unit.

[Click here](#) to view the letter sent to the Auditor General.

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